Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Emergency medical services are vital public services; and,

Whereas, Members of emergency medical services teams stand ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and,

Whereas, Access to quality emergency care provided by these teams dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and,

Whereas, Emergency medical services providers have traditionally served as the safety net of America's health care system; and,

Whereas, Emergency medical services teams include emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, and others; and,

Whereas, Approximately two-thirds of all emergency medical services providers are volunteers; and,

Whereas, Both career and volunteer emergency medical services providers devote thousands of hours to specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and,

Whereas, South Dakotans benefit daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals; and,

Whereas, The appropriate use of the emergency medical services system can help reduce health care costs; and,

Whereas, It is appropriate to recognize the value and accomplishments of emergency medical services providers:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 18-24, 2008, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all citizens to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities within their communities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Teresa J. Bray, Deputy

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State